Abstract

A technique for lessening the likelihood of congestion in a congestible node is disclosed. In accordance with the illustrative embodiments of the present invention, one node – a proxy node – drops protocol data units to lessen the likelihood of congestion in the congestible node. In some embodiments of the present invention, the proxy node receives a metric of a queue at a congestible node and, based on the metric, decides whether to drop protocol data units *en route* to the congestible node. In some other embodiments of the present invention, the proxy node *estimates* a metric of a queue at a congestible node and, based on the metric, decides whether to drop protocol data units *en route* to the congestible node.